

To: Washburn, Ben[washburn.ben@epa.gov]
From: Quirarte-Ortiz, Cecilia
Sent: Mon 4/28/2014 10:42:28 PM
Subject: RE: OPA Daily Digest 4/28/14

Posted

From: Washburn, Ben
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 4:06 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 4/28/14

OPA Daily Digest for 4/28/14

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Tom Harkin (Iowa) – Email – 4/24/14: Constituent concerns about redevelopment of the Des Moines TCE/Dico Superfund site in Des Moines. Due: 5/1/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

St Charles County Council (Mo) – 4/28/14: Requesting EPA attend a Council meeting. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (closed)

Mayor Conrad Bowers (Mo) – 4/28/14: Questions on EPA's review of community testing and results. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Legislative Liaison, Office of the Director (Mo):4/28/14 Review of SB968. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Press Inquiries:

KZRG Radio, Joplin – Joe Lancello – 4/22/14: Questions about use of mine tailings on a construction project in Joplin. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

KWQC-TV, Davenport, Iowa – 4/25/15: Questions about water issues in Muscatine, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (open)

St. Louis Post-Dispatch – Blythe Bernhard – 4/25/14: Questions about off-site sampling conducted by the community at the Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

Cedar Rapids Gazette - Erin Jordan – 4/25/14: Jim Callier conducted an interview about universities in Iowa joining the Food Recovery Challenge. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

KTVI-TV, Channel 2 St. Louis – Betsey Bruce – 4/25/14: Discussed universities joining the Food Recovery Challenge. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

K-State Radio Network, Manhattan – Eric Atkinson – 4/25/14: Interviewed Karen Flournoy about K-State being recognized for innovative storm water management systems. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

Huffington Post - Republic Nuclear Dump Fire Threatens Investors, Workers - 4/25/14 - Since 2010, a landfill fire has been moving toward 8,700 tons of unlined illegally dumped radioactive waste in Bridgeton, Missouri. The site is in the middle of working-class neighborhoods, right next to the Saint Louis airport, and near a hospital, schools and a great number of businesses. The Teamsters believe Bill Gates and other investors in Republic Services, Inc. should take a closer look. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/james-p-hoffa/republic-nuclear-dump-fire_b_5214979.html

KMOV Ch. 4 St. Louis - Residents near Westlake landfill say they detected rise in radiation levels - 4/25/14 - Residents near the Westlake landfill say they have detected a rise in radiation levels in a ditch a mile away at the Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex. <http://www.kmov.com/news/editors-pick/Residents-near-West-Lake-landfill-say-they-detected-rise-in-radiation-levels-256855331.html>

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - High levels of radiation found in soil at Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex - 4/25/14 - High levels of radiation have been found in a drainage ditch at the Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex, according to independent testing from residents who live near the radioactive West Lake Landfill. http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/health/high-levels-of-radiation-found-in-soil-at-bridgeton-municipal/article_df87ada6-e980-5207-a54f-dd3d6662039c.html

KMOV Ch. 4 St. Louis - Work on Bridgeton Landfill causing headache for nearby business - 4/25/14 - There has been a lot of unwanted, unexpected and distracting construction around a car service center this week while crews are working on the Bridgeton Landfill. <http://www.kmov.com/news/local/Work-on-Bridgeton-Landfill-causing-headache-for-nearby-business-256786021.html>

Hays Post - PSU joins KSU and KU in EPA's Food Recovery Challenge - 5/25/14 - EPA Region 7 is announcing nine new collegiate members of EPA's Food Recovery Challenge (FRC), a national initiative aimed at encouraging businesses, organizations and institutions to actively participate in food waste prevention, surplus food donation and food waste recycling activities. <http://www.hayspost.com/2014/04/25/psu-joins-ksu-and-ku-in-epas-food-recovery-challenge/>

Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association - Groups ask EPA to reconsider position on avgas - 4/25/14 - Three environmental groups have petitioned the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reconsider its 2012 decision not to immediately pursue an endangerment finding for leaded avgas. The April 21 petition comes as the Piston Aviation Fuels Initiative (PAFI) is making substantial progress toward the identification, evaluation, and fleetwide certification of the most promising unleaded replacement fuels. <http://www.aopa.org/News-and-Video/All-News/2014/April/24/Groups-ask-EPA-to-reconsider-position-on-avgas.aspx>

Fort Dodge Messenger - Subject: Saving Iowa's soil | Scientists: Too much damage has been done - 4/27/14 - If there were any scientists prone to favor Iowa's farming techniques on April 11, none spoke up. <http://www.messengernews.net/page/content.detail/id/575136/Subject--Saving-Iowa-s-soil.html>

Des Moines Register - DNR takes enforcement actions on water, air violations - 4/24/14 - The Iowa Department of Natural Resources today announced enforcement actions that include fines against businesses, individuals and governments. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/04/24/iowa-dnr-enforcement-actions-violations/8103263/>

NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

Des Moines Register - Green Fields: DNR sets hearings for livestock rules - 4/26/14 - The Iowa Department of Natural Resources will hold public hearings across Iowa on proposed rule changes that set out oversight of large livestock feeding operations in Iowa. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/business/2014/04/27/green-fields-dnr-hearings-livestock-rules/8189685/>

NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

Des Moines Register - Iowa DNR sets public hearings on rules for oversight of large livestock operations - 4/24/14 - The Iowa Department of Natural Resources will hold public hearings across Iowa on proposed rule changes that set out oversight of large livestock feeding operations in Iowa.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/04/24/iowa-dnr-public-hearings-livestock-feeding-operations-cafos/8100783/>

NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

Quad-City Times - Letter: Regulate farm pollution - 4/24/14 - Bad Shepherds are destroying resources that belong to us and to future generations. We have work to do to honor the better ideal.

http://qctimes.com/news/opinion/mailbag/regulate-farm-pollution/article_e19fdadd-961f-5fc3-99c7-d7cd23e90509.html

KAKE Ch. 10 Wichita, Kan. - White powder from refinery covers parts of El Dorado - 4/25/14 -

A malfunction at an oil refinery caused the release of white powder that covered much of El Dorado this morning. Fire Captain Troy Jellison said, "We found it to be a very benign substance. It was a very neutral chemical.

<http://www.kake.com/home/headlines/White-powder-covers-parts-of-El-Dorado-256727331.html>

AgWeb - EPA's Migratory Frog Rule - 4/28/14 - Under the proposed rule, these agencies claim the Clean Water Act provides them with jurisdiction over a number of seemingly isolated water bodies. This could mean extra bureaucratic headaches for farmers and ranchers across the country.

http://www.agweb.com/EPAs_Migratory_Frog_Rule_NAA_John_Dillard/

National Public Radio - Fire-Setting Ranchers Have Burning Desire To Save Tallgrass Prairie - 4/28/14 - For the past month, in part of eastern Kansas, the prairie has been burning, as it does almost every spring. The plumes of pollution have traveled so far that they've violated limits for particulates or ozone in cities as far away as Lincoln, Neb. But here's the twist: Environmentalists have come to celebrate those fires. <http://wvxu.org/post/fire-setting-ranchers-have-burning-desire-save-tallgrass-prairie>

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - State air pollution program facing insolvency - 4/26/14 - Polluters in Missouri are getting better at controlling harmful emissions. Good for the environment. Bad for the state's air monitoring program. http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/state-air-pollution-program-facing-insolvency/article_f5c105ab-799e-568a-b6d1-e0b9b932e313.html

West Newsmagazine (St. Louis) - Ameren breaks ground at O'Fallon solar energy facility - 4/25/14 - Ameren Missouri held a "ground breaking" ceremony for its O'Fallon Renewable Energy Center on Friday, April 25, but the

company left its shovels packed away for the event.

<http://www.newsmagazinenetwork.com/2014042546961/ameren-breaks-ground-at-ofallon-solar-energy-facility/>

Omaha World-Herald - Editorial: Energy policy still lacking - 4/25/14 - Nearly 40 years ago, President Jimmy Carter called solving the nation's energy problems "the moral equivalent of war." Decades later, the United States still lacks a real energy policy. <http://www.neprepzone.com/article/20140425/NEWS08/140429302>

Kansas City Star - Opinion: The Koch brothers are remaking the GOP in their image - 4/25/14 - Two of the wealthiest men on the planet, headquartered in Wichita, are trying to remake the Republican Party into Libertarians, from the inside out, <http://www.kansascity.com/2014/04/26/4982400/koch-brothers-are-remaking-gop.html>

Lincoln Journal-Star (Neb.) - Keystone XL opponents turn out to protest at Capitol - 4/25/14 - A little more than 100 opponents of the Keystone XL pipeline stood at the steps on the north side of the Nebraska State Capitol Building on Saturday afternoon to voice their concerns about the project. http://journalstar.com/news/state-and-regional/federal-politics/keystone-xl-opponents-turn-out-to-protest-at-capitol/article_08f7f9ec-b889-5705-a146-46a53ce90176.html

KCRG Ch. 9 Cedar Rapids - Coe College Efforts to Reduce Food Waste Recognized - 4/25/14 - One college in Eastern Iowa has been working to help the environment. And now, their efforts are paying off. Coe College in Cedar Rapids is now a member of the Environmental Protection Agency's Food Recovery Challenge. <http://www.kcrg.com/home/top-9/Coe-College-Efforts-to-Reduce-Food-Waste-Recognized-256796861.html>

Des Moines Register - UI, Coe, Luther join federal initiative to reduce food waste - 4/25/14 - The University of Iowa, Coe and Luther colleges will join the University of Northern Iowa in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's national initiative to reduce food waste. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/04/25/university-of-iowa-coe-college-luther-college-epa-food-recovery/8145843/>

Cedar Rapids Gazette, Iowa - Three area colleges join federal food waste project - 4/25/14 - The University of Iowa, Coe College and Luther College are joining the Environmental Protection Agency's Food Recovery Challenge, which asks institutions to reduce food waste through leaner purchasing and diverting food waste from the landfill. <http://thegazette.com/subject/news/education/higher-education/three-area-colleges-join-federal-food-waste-project-20140425>

Bloomberg - EPA: Cars not clean enough | Automakers get around targets. - 4/27/14 - Automakers wouldn't be meeting U.S. requirements for reducing greenhouse gas emissions without using special energy credits in addition to cleaner-fuel technology, according to an EPA assessment. http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/epa-cars-not-clean-enough/article_3fb7d8da-cdb6-11e3-9f11-10604b9f6eda.html

Garden City Telegram - Brownback signs Kansas' clean air act into law - 4/24/14 - House Bill 2636, the Kansas clean air act, which grants the Kansas Department of Health and Environment the authority to formulate its own plan for meeting air-quality standards, was strongly advocated for by Sunflower Electric Corp. <http://gctelegram.com/news/gov-signs-clean-air-act-4-25-14#sthash.0UnyUMv9.dpuf>

NBC News - Last Residents of Picher, Oklahoma Won't Give Up the Ghost (Town) - 4/25/14 - Thirty years and hundreds of millions of dollars since work began to clean up this former lead and zinc mining boomtown, progress is still being measured in inches or feet. <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/investigations/last-residents-picher-oklahoma-wont-give-ghost-town-n89611>

New York Times - Opinion: The Koch Attack on Solar Energy - 4/25/14 - At long last, the Koch brothers and their conservative allies in state government have found a new tax they can support. Naturally it's a tax on something the country needs: solar energy panels. <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/27/opinion/sunday/the-koch-attack-on-solar-energy.html>

Solar Power Is Skyrocketing — But Now a Conservative Group Wants to Stop It - 4/26/14 - The United States' solar energy-generating capacity has skyrocketed in the past four years, growing by an astonishing 418% by the estimates of the U.S. Energy Information Administration. <http://www.policymic.com/articles/88403/good-news-for-solar-energy-is-bad-news-for-the-kochs>

National Geographic - Will Newer Wind Turbines Mean Fewer Bird Deaths? - 4/26/14 - The question of how to protect winged wildlife is becoming more pressing as deaths rise with the growth of wind power. Wind generation in the United States is up dramatically, but so are bird deaths. <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/energy/2014/04/140427-altamont-pass-will-newer-wind-turbines-mean-fewer-bird-deaths/>

Associated Press - Study Links California Drought to Global Warming - 4/24/15 - A new study is asserting a link between climate change and both the intensifying California drought and the polar vortex blamed for the recent harsh winter. <http://bigstory.ap.org/article/study-links-california-drought-global-warming>

Politico - Al Gore Is Not Giving Up - 4/24/14 - A rare, frank conversation with the former vice president and climate-change activist. <http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2014/04/al-gore-is-not-giving-up-106003.html>

NPR (blog)- Radioactive Leak At U.S. Waste Dump Was Preventable, Report Says - 4/24/14 - A February accident at a nuclear waste dump that resulted in the contamination of 21 workers resulted in part from "poor management, ineffective maintenance and a lack of proper training and oversight," a Department of Energy report

concludes. <http://www.npr.org/blogs/thetwo-way/2014/04/24/306571693/radioactive-leak-at-u-s-waste-dump-was-preventable-report-says>

Washington Examiner - Climate plan support, not Keystone XL opposition, driving environmental endorsements - 4/27/14 - Support for the Keystone XL oil sands pipeline is not a deal-breaker when it comes to snagging endorsements from environmental groups for November's midterm elections. <http://washingtonexaminer.com/climate-plan-support-not-keystone-xl-opposition-driving-environmental-endorsements/article/2547750>

Washington Post - EPA Chief Asks African-Americans To Become 'Climate Justice Advocates' - 4/25/14 - Environmental Protection Agency leaders have something to tell African-American communities about the agency's work on climate change: We need you. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/04/25/mccarthy-epa-hip-hop-caucus_n_5215611.html

Washington Post - A battle is looming over renewable energy, and fossil fuel interests are losing - 4/25/14 - In state capitals across the country, legislators are debating proposals to roll back environmental rules, prodded by industry and advocacy groups eager to curtail regulations aimed at curbing greenhouse gases. http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/a-battle-is-looming-over-renewable-energy-and-fossil-fuel-interests-are-losing/2014/04/25/24ed78e2-cb23-11e3-a75e-463587891b57_story.html

Bloomberg - GE Plans to Invest \$1 Billion Annual on Solar, Wind Farms - 4/24/14 - General Electric Co.'s (GE) Energy Financial Services unit plans to invest more than \$1 billion a year on renewable-power projects. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-04-24/ge-plans-to-invest-1-billion-annual-on-solar-wind-farms.html>

New York Times - Nuclear Industry Gains Carbon-Focused Allies in Push to Save Reactors - 4/28/14 - Environmentalists and the nuclear industry are beginning a push to preserve old nuclear reactors whose economic viability is threatened by cheap natural gas and rising production of wind energy. <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/28/business/energy-environment/nuclear-industry-gains-carbon-focused-allies-in-push-to-save-reactors.html>

Inside Climate - Federal Pipeline and Oil-by-Rail Regulator Making 9% Staff Cut, Confounding Experts - 4/24/14 - Job cuts come at a time when PHMSA is struggling to regulate the nation's aging pipeline network and new pipelines tied to the oil and gas boom. <http://insideclimatenews.org/news/20140424/federal-pipeline-and-oil-rail-regulator-making-9-staff-cut-confounding-experts>

Greenwire - Automakers comply quickly with EPA tailpipe rule - 4/25/14 - Automakers on average have reduced the greenhouse gas footprint of their model year 2012 passenger vehicles even below the levels required by U.S. EPA's new tailpipe emissions rules, according to a new report released today by the agency. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059998486>

AgriNews - 'Ditch' EPA water rule, Farm Bureau tells members - 4/27/14 - The American Farm Bureau Federation asked its members to resist a proposed rule from the Environmental Protection Agency that it says will impose unworkable regulations on the nation's farms. <http://agrinews-pubs.com/Content/News/Latest-News/Article/-Ditch--EPA-water-rule--Farm-Bureau-tells-members-/8/6/10237>

National Journal - EPA Chief Returns Fire in War Over Science - 4/28/14 - Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy fired back in the war over her agency's science, slamming critics who "manufacture uncertainties that stop us from taking urgently needed climate action." <http://www.nationaljournal.com/energy/epa-chief-returns-fire-in-war-over-science-20140428>

Springfield News- Leader - Raising stink brings results - 4/27/14 - Springfield resident Adam Farley suspected a sewer line had broken after noticing a stench and cloudy water at a secluded stream near the Southern Hills neighborhood in southeast Springfield. He reported the leak to the city and other agencies April 7. <http://www.news-leader.com/story/news/local/ozarks/2014/04/26/raising-stink-brings-results/8218313/>

E&E News PM - EPA seeking small-business input on building rules - 4/25/14 - U.S. EPA said this afternoon it is seeking small businesses' participation in a review panel that will look at what additional steps the agency should take to reduce lead exposure in public and commercial building renovation projects. <http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/stories/1059998492/>

Wall Street Journal - For Weed Control, Farmers Widen Their Arsenal of Herbicides - 4/25/14 - U.S. farmers are dousing their fields with a wider array of herbicides, helping some turn a corner in the war on super weeds but adding new costs and environmental concerns. <http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702303847804579481641717350038?mg=reno64-wsj&url=http%3A%2F%2Fonline.wsj.com%2Farticle%2FSB10001424052702303847804579481641717350038.html>

E&E Daily - McCarthy bashes GOP's 'secret science' rhetoric - 4/28/14 - U.S. EPA chief Gina McCarthy is fighting back against GOP criticisms that her agency is using "secret science." She's expected to publicly excoriate the phrase -- a favorite among EPA opponents looking to undermine the agency's regulations -- when she appears today before an audience at the National Academy of Sciences' annual meeting. <http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1059998534/>

E&E Daily - Field hearing to examine effects of new Clean Water Act proposal - 4/28/14 - As the Obama administration proposes to increase the number of streams and wetlands that have automatic protection under the Clean Water Act, a key House panel today will take a closer look at what such federal regulation means on the ground. <http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1059998524/>

Chemical & Engineering News - A Carbon Commodity - 4/28/14 - Advocates say enhanced oil recovery using CO2 can drive carbon capture and sequestration technologies. <http://cen.acs.org/articles/92/i17/Carbon-Commodity.html>

Yale Environment 360 - Analysis: Why Wave Power Has Lagged Far Behind as Energy Source - 4/28/14 - Researchers have long contended that power from ocean waves could make a major contribution as a renewable energy source. But a host of challenges, including the difficulty of designing a device to capture the energy of waves, have stymied efforts to generate electricity from the sea.
http://e360.yale.edu/feature/why_wave_power_has_lagged_far_behind_as_energy_source/2760/

Yale Environment 360 - Economic Viability of Nuclear Power Under Threat, Energy Group Says - 4/28/14 - Nuclear reactors in the U.S. need a boost — either through carbon taxes or regulations forcing coal-fired plants to slash emissions — or economic factors will force many to close, according to a report released today from a non-profit group.
http://e360.yale.edu/digest/economic_viability_of_nuclear_power_under_threat_energy_group_says/4135/

The Hill - DOT to move forward on crude-by-rail rules next week - 4/25/14 - The Department of Transportation is planning on sending a “comprehensive” package of proposals regarding rail shipments of crude oil to the White House for its review next week. <http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/204367-dot-to-move-forward-on-crude-by-rail-rules-next-week>

BNA - EPA Issues Guidance to States on Sulfur Air Standard - 4/25/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency issued updated guidance to state air pollution regulators on preparing plans to comply with the revised health-based air quality standard for sulfur dioxide.
http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=45536403&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e9p1y9e6&split=0

BNA - EPA to Publish Final Tier 3 Gasoline, Vehicle Rule - 4/25/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency will publish Tier 3 standards for gasoline and vehicles in the Federal Register April 28. The final rule will reduce the annual average amount of sulfur in gasoline to 10 parts per million beginning in 2017.
http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=45536370&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e9n6b4c9&split=0

BNA - Oil, Gas Producer Baker Hughes to Disclose All Chemicals Used in Hydraulic Fracturing - 4/25/14 - Oil and gas producer Baker Hughes of Houston has announced it will disclose all of the chemical ingredients it uses in hydraulic fracturing, including chemicals it had previously shielded as trade secrets.
http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=45536396&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e9n7q4d8&split=0

BN - Boxer, Whitehouse Request 'Comprehensive' Health Study on Keystone XL Pipeline - 4/25/14 -
Secretary of State John Kerry should commit to a "comprehensive" human health study of tar sands oil and the proposed Keystone pipeline, project opponents Sens. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.) said.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=45536380&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e9n7e5d2&split=0

BN - Technical Advances Warrant EPA Revisions In Outdated Assessment Methods, ACC Says - 4/25/14 -
As part of an effort to improve federal chemical hazard and risk assessment programs, the American Chemistry Council announced April 25 a set of broad principles ranging from initial design to final review of the assessments.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=45536393&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e9n7q1z7&split=0

BN - Federal Judge Rejects Coal Ash Consent Decree Over Deadline Extension Provisions - 4/25/14 - A
federal district court judge rejected a proposed consent decree that would have required the Environmental Protection Agency to issue final coal ash regulations by Dec. 19.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=45536378&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e9n7b4f8&split=0

BN - Lobbying on Water Act Jurisdiction Rule Almost Doubled Over Year, Records Show - 4/25/14 - The
number of groups and businesses representing agriculture, energy, forestry, water districts, and pesticides that lobbied Congress on the recently proposed Clean Water Act jurisdiction rule nearly doubled from the year-ago quarter.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=45536397&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e9n7q4g1&split=0

Inside EPA - Seeing Risks, Group Urges Firmer Administration Stance On Geoengineering - 4/28/14 - A new
academic consortium and its supporters are urging the Obama administration and others who are skeptical of geoengineering as a potential solution to address climate change to take a firmer stance on the issue,

<http://insideepa.com/201404282468909/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/seeing-risks-group-urges-firmer-administration-stance-on-geoengineering/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - CRS Details CWA's Expansion Under EPA's Proposed Jurisdiction Rule - 4/28/14 - The
Congressional Research Service (CRS) is detailing how the Obama administration's proposed rule defining the reach of the Clean Water Act (CWA) would expand EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction.

<http://insideepa.com/201404282468912/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/crs-details-cwas-expansion-under-epas-proposed-jurisdiction-rule/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Critics Claim EPA Concedes Generator Air Rule Exemption Unnecessary - 4/25/14 - "Clean"
utilities that generate the bulk of their electricity from low-emitting sources are claiming that EPA in a recent legal brief concedes that an exemption it gave diesel generators from having to comply with an air toxics rule for up to 100 hours was unnecessary.

<http://cleanenergyreport.com/201404252468722/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/critics-claim-epa-concedes-generator-air-rule-exemption-unnecessary/menu-id-202.html>

Inside EPA - EPA Pushes Ahead With Air Reporting Overhaul Despite States' Concerns - 4/25/14 - EPA is vowing to meet its self-imposed October deadline for overhauling its system for states reporting Clean Air Act violations to the agency. <http://insideepa.com/201404252468732/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-pushes-ahead-with-air-reporting-overhaul-despite-states-concerns/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Plaintiffs Seek To Reinstate Climate 'Trust' Arguments - 4/25/14 - Despite long odds, plaintiffs pursuing a novel lawsuit claiming EPA has a public "trust" duty to regulate greenhouse gases (GHGs) are urging the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to reconsider its decision to scrap imminent oral arguments. <http://insideepa.com/201404252468820/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/plaintiffs-seek-to-reinstate-climate-trust-arguments/menu-id-97.html>

Inside EPA - Industry Pushes Novel Coal Ash Approach In Bid To Ease Enforcement Fear - 4/25/14 - A power industry group is renewing calls for EPA to regulate coal ash as a non-hazardous waste under a different section of the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA) than what the agency has proposed. <http://insideepa.com/Superfund-Report/Superfund-Report-04/28/2014/industry-pushes-novel-coal-ash-approach-in-bid-to-ease-enforcement-fear/menu-id-128.html>

Inside EPA - Sealant Producers Petition EPA To Correct USGS Data On PAH Releases - 4/25/14 - Despite limited options for judicial review, producers of coal-tar pavement sealants are petitioning EPA to correct information on the agency's website that endorses U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) findings that the sealants are the largest source of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in urban lakes and toxic to aquatic life. <http://insideepa.com/Superfund-Report/Superfund-Report-04/28/2014/sealant-producers-petition-epa-to-correct-usgs-data-on-pah-releases/menu-id-128.html>

Inside EPA - EPA Readies Lead Paint Risk Method For Possible New 'Renovation' Rule - 4/25/14 - EPA plans to soon release the method officials expect to use to determine whether potential exposure to lead paint from renovating and repairing public and commercial (P&C) buildings poses a hazard that should be regulated and remediated. <http://insideepa.com/Superfund-Report/Superfund-Report-04/28/2014/epa-readies-lead-paint-risk-method-for-possible-new-renovation-rule/menu-id-128.html>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

Nine More Colleges or Universities in Iowa, Kansas and Missouri Become New Members of EPA's Food Recovery Challenge – 4/25/14 – Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

EPA Investigations Hold SRG Global, of Farmington, Mo., Responsible for Wastewater Discharges to City's Public Water Treatment Works – 4/28/14 – Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

4/29/14 – Waters of the U.S. Outreach Event – Washburn University, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

4/30/14 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee, Lawrence, Kan. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

4/30/14 – Westar Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Rebecca Weber, 7487

5/1/14 – Waters of the U.S. Outreach Event – University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

5/1/14 – Meet with Missouri Department of Agriculture Director, Richard Fordyce, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Damon Frizzell, 7560

5/5-6/14 – Waters of the U.S. Outreach Event – Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

5/12/14 – Meet with Iowa Committee for Community Improvement (ICCI) Representatives, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Dave Cozad, 7587

5/12-13/14 – Waters of the U.S. Outreach Event – University of Lincoln, Lincoln, Neb. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

5/15/14 – OARM Diversity Training, Regional Office. Contact: Greg Davis, 7208

5/20-21/14 – Budget Planning Meeting, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

6/5/14 – Incident Command System Training, Regional Office. Contact: Cecilia Tapia, 7733

6/24-25/14 – Four State Directors Meeting, Nebraska City, Neb. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

7/21-22/14 – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

DRA:

5/15/14 – OARM Diversity Training, Regional Office. Contact: Greg Davis, 7208

5/20-21/14 – Budget Planning Meeting, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

6/24-25/14 – Four State Directors Meeting, Nebraska City, Neb. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

7/21-22/14 – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

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RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

None

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

None

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

9/29-30/14 - Healthy School Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382

SUPR

None

WWPD

4/28-5/2/14 - Tribal Operator Certification Training and Testing provided by Indian Health Service and EPA, Sac & Fox of Missouri and Iowa, Reserve, Kan. Contact: Stan Calow, 7410

4/28-5/4/14 – Toxic Substances and Control Act Case Development to EPA Regions 1-4 Case Management Officers, Washington, DC. Contact: Maria Morey, 7079

5/1/14 – Meet with Missouri Department of Agriculture Director, Richard Fordyce, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Damon Frizzell, 7560

5/5-8/14 – Environmental Leaders Institute State / Tribal / EPA Training Workshop, Shepherdstown, W.Va. Contact: Tabatha Adkins, 7128

5/12/14 – Meet with ICCI Representatives, Des Moines, Iowa. Contacts: Dave Cozad, 7587, Karen Flournoy, 7782

5/12-16/14 – National Total Maximum Daily Load/Measures and 303(d) Listing Conference, Denver, Co. Contacts: Tabatha Adkins, 7128, Bruce Perkins, 7067, Debby White, 7886

DNR takes enforcement actions on water, air violations

By Donnelle Eller, deller@dmreg.com 3:12 p.m. CDT April 24, 2014

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/04/24/iowa-dnr-enforcement-actions-violations/8103263/>

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources today announced enforcement actions that include fines against businesses, individuals and governments.

Under administrative order, which can be appealed:

- P.M. Lattner Manufacturing Co., the maker of industrial boilers and other equipment in Cedar Rapids, has been ordered to pay \$1,000 penalty for failing to provide an inventory of air pollutant emissions for 2012.

- Larry Eisenhower, who owns property near Sergeant Bluff, has been ordered to pay a \$4,675 penalty, cease open burning and dumping of solid wastes, and remove trees, railroad ties and other waste from his property.

Under consent orders with the DNR:

- Darwin Rieck of Rieck Feedlot near Blairstown, has agreed to pay \$2,956 in restitution for a fish kill, \$1,762 to cover investigative costs, and a \$4,750 penalty for water quality violations resulting from a manure discharge from an open feedlot.

- Poweshiek Water Association, based in Brooklyn, agreed to pay a \$3,500 penalty for wastewater violations in Watkins.

- Marvin Van Maanen of Doon in western Iowa, paid \$1,775 in restitution for a fish kill and investigative costs resulting from a manure spill from an open feedlot.

- High Plains Dairy, near Sanborn, has made improvements to the facility to warn of equipment failure and paid a \$5,000 penalty for a manure discharge.

- Greg Lammers of G&J Hauling, LeMars, agreed to pay \$2,000 penalty for violating manure application requirements.

- Dry Creek Farms, a dairy operation near Rock Valley, paid a \$5,000 penalty and agreed to seek a federal pollutant discharge elimination system permit to resolve violations resulting from a manure spill.

- Mid-States Manufacturing and Engineering Inc. of Milton agreed to pay a \$2,500 penalty for failing to timely submit an inventory of air pollutant emissions for 2012. The company agreed to additional penalties if the report is not submitted in accordance to the order.

Consent agreement amendments:

- J&J Pork reached an agreement with the state to pay a \$4,000 penalty for animal feeding violations, settling an appeal of the original order. The company originally was ordered to pay a \$5,000 penalty.
- River Highlands Homeowners Association, LeClaire, paid a total of \$1,500 to resolve water supply violations the group is appealing
- Stephan Palen, Ottumwa, agreed to a payment plan to settle a \$2,500 penalty from a 2013 administrative order addressing air quality issues.

Green Fields: DNR sets hearings for livestock rules

By Christopher Doering & Donnelle Eller 11:14 p.m. CDT April 26, 2014

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources will hold public hearings across Iowa on proposed rule changes that set out oversight of large livestock feeding operations in Iowa.

The proposed changes would bring Iowa's requirements for concentrated animal feeding operations, called CAFOs, into compliance with federal regulations and satisfy a work plan the state and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency entered into last year.

The state proposes adopting federal regulations that require confined animal feeding operations to comply with federal pollutant discharge elimination system permit requirements. The changes would also require animal feeding operations that have discharge permits to comply with federal setback requirements for land application of manure.

Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement, a statewide advocacy group, says it has submitted 450 comments "demanding the DNR strengthen the proposed rule." The group said members plan to attend all the hearings.

Iowans can comment in person or in writing at any of the following meetings:

- May 6 at 6 p.m., Lime Creek Nature Center, 3501 Lime Creek Road, Mason City.
- May 7 at 6 p.m., Clay County Administration Building, Boardroom, 300 W. Fourth St., Spencer.
- May 8 at 6 p.m., Carroll County Courthouse, Meeting Room, 114 E. Sixth St., Carroll.
- May 9 at 10 a.m., Wallace State Office Building, Fourth Floor Conference Room, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines.
- May 12 at 6 p.m., Northeast Iowa Community College, Dairy Center, Room 115, 1527 Highway 150 S., Calmar.
- May 13 at 6 p.m., Washington County Conservation Board, Education Center, Marr Park, 2943 Highway 92, Ainsworth.

Written comments also can be sent to Gene Tinker, Iowa DNR, Wallace State Office Building, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines, IA 50319-0034. They can also be faxed to 515-281-8895, or emailed to Gene.Tinker@dnr.iowa.gov.

Iowa wind association names new leader

The Iowa Wind Energy Association unanimously agreed to name Mike Prior to lead the organization.

Prior has served as the group's director of business development and interim director since December.

Kathy Law, a Des Moines attorney and the group's president, said Mike Prior's "enthusiasm and passion for the wind industry will allow IWEA to maintain and grow its strong leadership position in the wind industry."

Prior said he takes over at a critical time for the wind industry in Iowa. The renewable energy accounts for 24 percent of the total electric generation in the state. And strong support from the public — and state and federal lawmakers — “gives us a unique opportunity to work together to make wind energy an even more integral part of Iowa’s energy portfolio,” Prior said.

Prior replaces his father, Harold Prior, who was the group’s first director and recently retired.

“Mike’s experience and leadership will help us grow Iowa’s wind energy industry, create more jobs, and protect our natural resources,” said Iowa Rep. Dan Kelley, D-Newton.

Businesses, individuals fined for violations

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Study: Iowa biofuels industry backs 73,400 jobs

Production of renewable fuels in Iowa supports nearly 73,400 jobs and \$5 billion in wages annually, a new industry study shows.

Fuels America, a coalition of agribusiness groups and companies, says the ethanol and biodiesel industry nationally supports 852,056 jobs and generates \$46.2 billion in wages annually.

The industry group is fighting efforts to roll back the Renewable Fuel Standard, a federal mandate that requires that ethanol and biodiesel be blended into the nation's fuel supply.

The coalition, which includes DuPont, Monsanto and the National Corn Growers Association, says the renewable fuels industry and its suppliers, through direct and indirect activity, create an economic impact of \$19.3 billion annually in Iowa and \$184.5 billion nationally.

The renewable fuels industry in Iowa generates an estimated \$1.7 billion in taxes annually, and \$14.5 billion nationally, according to the study, conducted by John Dunham & Associates, a New York-based economic research company.

Des Moines Register

Iowa DNR sets public hearings on rules for oversight of large livestock operations

Donnelle Eller, deller@dmreg.com 1:19 p.m. CDT April 24, 2014

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The proposed changes would bring Iowa's requirements for concentrated animal feeding operations, called CAFOs,

into compliance with federal regulations and satisfy a work plan the state and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency entered into last year.

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